

CLAIMS

1. An antibiotic composition comprising at least 50% by weight of Erythromycin B (or a pharmaceutically acceptable derivative thereof) based on the total weight of antibiotic present in the composition.
2. An antibiotic composition as claimed in claim 1 which contains at least 75% by weight of Erythromycin B (or a pharmaceutically acceptable derivative thereof) based on the total weight of antibiotic present in the composition.
3. An antibiotic composition as claimed in claim 2 which contains at least 90% by weight of Erythromycin B (or a pharmaceutically acceptable derivative thereof) based on the total weight of antibiotic present in the composition.
4. An antibiotic composition as claimed in claim 3 which contains Erythromycin B (or a pharmaceutically acceptable derivative thereof) as substantially the only antibiotic.
5. An antibiotic composition as claimed in any one of claims 1 to 4 which contains 50mg to 1g of Erythromycin B (or a pharmaceutically acceptable derivative thereof).
6. An antibiotic composition as claimed in claim 5 which contains 100mg to 500mg of Erythromycin B (or a pharmaceutically acceptable derivative thereof).
7. An antibiotic composition as claimed in any one of claims 1 to 6 in the form of a tablet, a capsule, a suspension, an elixir, a syrup or an injectable.
8. An antibiotic composition as claimed in claim 7 in the form of a tablet containing 250mg to 500mg of Erythromycin B (or a pharmaceutically acceptable derivative thereof).

8. An antibiotic composition as claimed in claim 7 in the form of a tablet containing 250mg to 500mg of Erythromycin B (or a pharmaceutically acceptable derivative thereof).

~~9. A pharmaceutical composition as claimed in any one of claims 1 to 8 containing a pharmaceutically acceptable derivative of Erythromycin B and where said derivative is a 2'-ester of Erythromycin B or Erythromycin B enol ether.~~

~~10. A 2'-ester of Erythromycin B or of Erythromycin B enol ether.~~

~~11. An ester as claimed in claim 10 wherein the ester is a carboxylate ester of a mono or dicarboxylic acid.~~

~~12. An ester as claimed in claim 12 which is a succinate ester.~~

~~13. An antibiotic composition comprising a therapeutically effective amount of an ester as claimed in any one of claims 10 to 12.~~

~~14. The use of Erythromycin B (or a pharmaceutically acceptable derivative thereof) for the manufacture of a pharmaceutical composition for the treatment of microbial infection.~~

~~15. A method of treating a microbial infection comprising administering to a patient in need of such treatment a therapeutically effective amount of Erythromycin B (or a pharmaceutically acceptable derivative thereof).~~

~~16. Erythromycin B (or a pharmaceutically acceptable derivative thereof) for use in therapeutic administration for the treatment of microbial infection.~~

~~17. A use or method as claimed in any one of claims 13, 14 or 15 in which the microbial infection is TB, Syphilis, Helicobacter pylori, or Chlamydia.~~

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